Medical

A.D. 1870, 14th June. N° 1704.

SPECIFICATION

OF

ALFRED FORD.

FOMENTING PAD.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:
PUBLISHED AT THE GREAT SEAL PATENT OFFICE,
25, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN.
1870.

Price 6d.

A.D. 1870, 14th *June*. N° 1704.

Fomenting Pad.

(*This Invention received Provisional Protection only.*)

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by Alfred Ford at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 14th June 1870.

I, Alfred Ford, of No. 21, Elgin Crescent, in the Coy. of Middlesex, Surgeon, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "An Improved Method of Applying Moisture and Heat, Medicated or otherwise, to the Animal Frame," to be as follows:—

The object of this Invention is to provide an ever ready epithem or fomenting pad, which, while it will enable surgeons and nurses to dispense with the clumsy appliance of bread, linseed meal, and such like materials, as poultices, in applying heat and moisture to the animal frame, will effectually retain that moisture, and prevent the conduction of that heat into the atmosphere, which are designed to be applied as therapeutic agents, and which epithem being easily cleansed may be repeatedly applied.

With this view I take sponge, torn or otherwise reduced into shreds or small pieces, and by enclosing the same in a linen, or cotton, or other suitable textile fabric case, I form a small pillow, mattress, or pad, and by passing a few stitches through the same prevent the shifting of its

contents. I then affix this by means of an adhesive waterproof material, such as india-rubber or gutta percha solution, or by some other suitable means to a piece of waterproof sheeting or cloth of a sufficient size to overlap the pillow, mattress, or pad in such a way as, when it has been moistened and is in situ, the edges of the overlap by clinging to the surface of the body shall effectually exclude the air from getting to the pad, and the moisture from getting out of it by the sides or upper surface. Although I prefer sponge I may occasionally use cotton, wool, paper in a fine state of division, or some other absorbing material; and I may, although I prefer to make my epithem in the manner herein described, sometimes make the waterproof material from one side of the epithem itself, instead of affixing the latter to a separate piece, or may otherwise vary the method of making my said epithem, provided always, I retain within it an absorbing material capable of holding heat and moisture, a free surface for transmitting the same to the surface of the body, a waterproof surface capable of resisting evaporation, retaining heat, and excluding air, and an overlapping edge which when moistened prevents the ingress of air to the moistened epithem.

LONDON:
Printed by George Edward Eyre and William Spottiswoode,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1870.